promotional activities with higher levels of assistance. In addition, a new scheme for Upgradation of Quality of street foods has also been proposed to be implemented. The emphasis will be on building strong linkages with agriculture and horticulture, enhancing project implementation capabilities, increased involvement of private sector investments and support for creation of rural infrastructure to ensure a steady supply of good quality agri-horticulture produce.

Cold storage trucks

2144. DR. K. MALAISAMY: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there are around 1,500 refrigerated trucks in the country, as against the requirement of more that 15 lakh such trucks;

(b) if so, the measures taken to fill the huge gap to match the demand; and

(c) whether there would be substantial subsidy and other incentives and assistances in this connection, to build or lease such trucks?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY): (a) to (c) Ministry of Food Processing Industries (MFPI) had been providing financial assistance in the form of grant-in-aid upto 25% of the cost of plant and machinery and technical civil works in general areas and 33.33% in difficult areas with a common ceiling of Rs. 75 lakhs under the Cold Chain component of Tenth Plan Scheme. The assistance under the scheme was limited to cold storages for non-horticulture produces, special type of cold storages with controlled/modified atmosphere technology, cold storages as integral part of processing units or as a common facility in food parks. The refrigerated truck/vans were not covered under the scheme.

However, MFPI has submitted a proposal to Planning Commission on a comprehensive Cold Chain Infrastructure Scheme for Eleventh Plan for providing financial assistance to various stakeholders for revamping integrated cold chain infrastructure at different levels - farm level primary processing centre-cum-cold chain, collection/aggregation centres and Strategic Distribution Centres. The scheme envisages integrated and complete cold chain facilities without any break, from farm gate to the consumer, pre-cooling facilities at production sites including reefer vans/containers and mobile cooling units.

SNAs for food processing industries

2145. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have, on the recommendation of the State Governments, nominated the State Nodal Agencies (SNAs), to coordinate various activities pertaining to the food processing industries;

(b) if so, whether any SNA in Andhra Pradesh has been established;

(c) if so, the details thereof and whether steps have been mitigated by that SNA to promote food processing industries in the State;